# ARA – PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY PUT INTO PRACTICE

USEPA dialogue on the sustainable financing of municipal recycling
21 January 2011

Christoph Scharff
CEO and President, ARA





#### **AUSTRIA: FACTS AND FIGURES**

Capital

Area

Population

EU Member State

GDP 2009<sup>1)</sup>

GDP per capita

Post-consumer waste
 (MSW and other)<sup>2)</sup>

Packaging waste<sup>3)</sup>

Current exchange rate

Vienna

84,000 km<sup>2</sup>

8.4 million

since 1995

275.5 billion €

29,700€

3.7 million tons

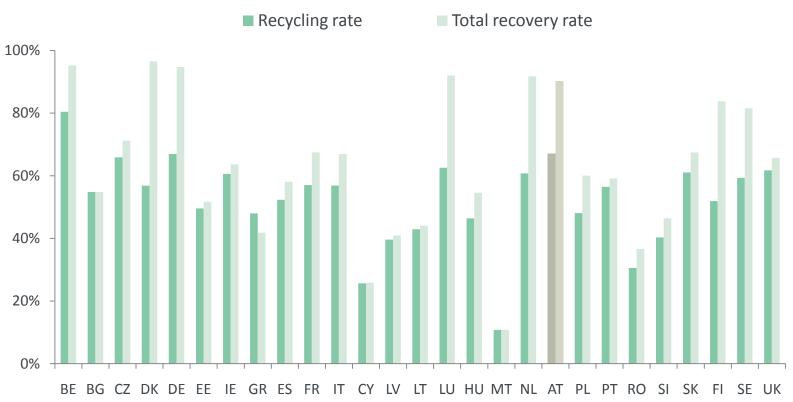
1.1 million tons

1 EUR = 1,35 US-\$





## PACKAGING WASTE RECOVERY: AUSTRIA AMONG BEST EU COUNTRIES







#### **CONTENTS**

- 1 The framework
- 2 ARA's solution in practice
- 3 System operation
- 4 Financing
- 5 Effects and achievements a review

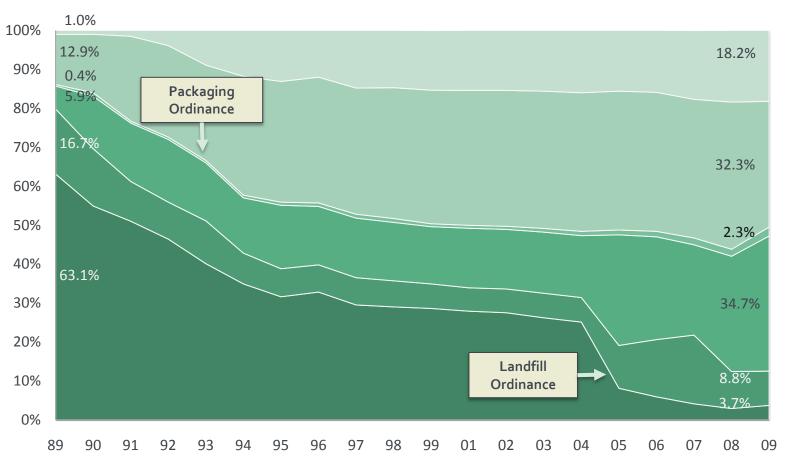


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### THE FRAMEWORK



# MSW IN AUSTRIA: TWO REGULATIONS FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION



- Biowaste collection and treatment
- Recycling from separate collection
- Treatment of household hazardous waste
- Thermal treatment / Incineration
- Mechanical-biological treatment
- Untreated waste to controlled landfills



### SEPARATE PACKAGING COLLECTION: STAKEHOLDERS AND THEIR OBJECTIVES

#### **Ministry of Environment**

- National targets according to the EU Packaging Directive
- Macroeconomic feasibility

#### Consumers

- Convenient, comprehensible and credible collection systems
- Minimal total financial burden from waste fees and charges

#### Municipalities

- Waste reduction
- Fair payment for services rendered
- Coordination with other waste management services

#### **Economic agents**

- License partners: transfer of duties at the lowest cost in the long run
- Waste generators: convenient and adequate collection service

#### Waste management companies

- Successful principal-agent relation
- Secondary raw materials

#### Compliance schemes/Collection systems

- Room for maneuver in the management of services and costs
- Level playing field for competition



# THE AUSTRIAN PACKAGING ORDINANCE: GENERAL AIM

#### The Packaging Ordinance requires

- packaging producers
- packers and fillers
- wholesalers and retailers

to assume responsibility for packaging material they put on the market by

- making economical use of packaging in general
- developing full-scale collection systems and
- improving reuse and recycling schemes.

#### Similar regulations in place for :

waste electric and electronic equipment, batteries, lamps and end-of-life-vehicles



#### TWO OPTIONS FOR COMPLIANCE

Companies that do **not participate** in a collection and recovery system

- Recovery through dedicated own collection schemes
- Reuse or recovery of collected packaging in state-of-the-art facilities
- Minimum recycling ratio for each packaging material
- Annual documentation to the Ministry (incl. breakdown by packaging materials)
  - Packaging volume put on the market
  - Volumes collected
  - Collection ratio in percent
  - Volume and transferee company

Companies that **participate** in a collection and recovery system

- Sign a license agreement
- Report the packaging volumes put on the market
- Pay the material-specific fees



#### KEY LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLIANCE SCHEMES

- Formal approval by the Ministry of Environment
- Prove contractual provisions and logistics basis for nationwide collection services
- Prove adequate financial resources
- Provide separate household and commercial systems
- Meet information and communication requirements
- Support waste minimization programs
- Regulatory supervision by the Ministry
- Meet collection standards as well as collection and recycling targets
- Report annually to the Ministry
- Audit procedure for all fees charged by systems with monopolistic characteristics



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### ARA'S SOLUTION IN PRACTICE



# ARA: RELIABLE COLLECTION AND RECOVERY OF PACKAGING WASTE SINCE 1993

- Founded by Austrian packaging manufacturers, fillers, packers, importers and trade companies to ensure compliance with the Austrian Packaging Ordinance
- Relies on public tendering every 3 to 5 years to select private-sector and municipal contractors for the collection, sorting and recovery of packaging waste



- Organizes the nationwide collection of packaging waste from households, public events, businesses and industry in line with the provisions of the operating permit
- Municipalities provide collection infrastructures and communication services
- ARA specifies collection systems at municipality level, on-demand annual updates
- ARA becomes the owner of the collected material and bears the market risks
- No cross-subsidies between household and commercial systems or between materials
- Non-profit orientation: Unplanned revenue surpluses are used to lower tariffs, thus benefiting businesses and consumers



### PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FOR PACKAGING: ARA SYSTEM

More than 15,000 licensees transfer to ARA their obligations arising under the Packaging

Ordinance **Producers** 

> Fillers, packers importers

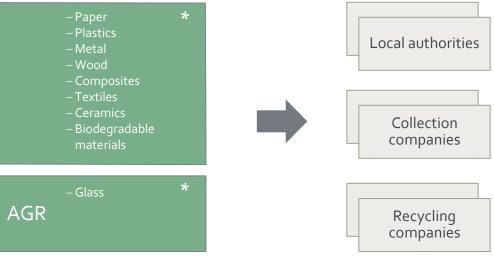
Retailers

ARA System organizes the nationwide collection and recovery of packaging waste from households, businesses and industry and meets the targets set by the Ministry of Environment



ARA Altstoff Recycling Austria AG AGR Austria Glasrecycling GmbH

Local authorities and more than 200 collection and recycling companies are the operational backbone





<sup>\*</sup> System operators according to Art. 29 Waste Management Act for each packaging material

# STAKEHOLDERS' BENEFITS AND DISADVANTAGES ALONG THE VALUE CHAIN (SIMPLIFIED)

	Consumption / retail	Collection / sorting	Recovery / recycling
Consumers	<ul><li>Fee for packaging recovery in retail prices</li><li>+ Lower MSW fee</li></ul>	<ul><li>Source separation</li><li>+ Additional collection capacity</li></ul>	+ Environmentally sound solution
Municipalities		<ul><li>+ Less MSW</li><li>+ Payment for services</li><li>- Less influence</li></ul>	+ Avoid recycling market risk
Waste management companies		+ Payment for services	+ Payment for services
Packers / fillers	<ul><li>Pay compliance scheme</li><li>+ Transfer of take-back obligation</li></ul>	+ Collection services for transport packaging	+ Secondary raw materials for increased recyclable content
Compliance scheme	+ Fee income from producers, packers, fillers	- Cost of collection and sorting	<ul><li>+ Revenues from recycling</li><li>- Cost of recovery</li><li>- Market risks</li><li>- Risk of target ratios</li></ul>



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### SYSTEM OPERATION



# MINISTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR PACKAGING WASTE COLLECTION SYSTEMS

#### Recovery ratios

- Material-specific percentage of the licensed packaging volume for household and commercial systems (> 50 mass percent each)
- Minimum ratios for material recycling
  - Material-specific percentage of the licensed packaging volumes (> 15 mass percent)
  - Overall ratio across all packaging materials of the volumes licensed by collection and recovery systems (> 25 mass percent)
- Adequate capacity of collection and recovery systems
  - National average (l/capita)
  - Regional minimum and maximum standards (l/capita)



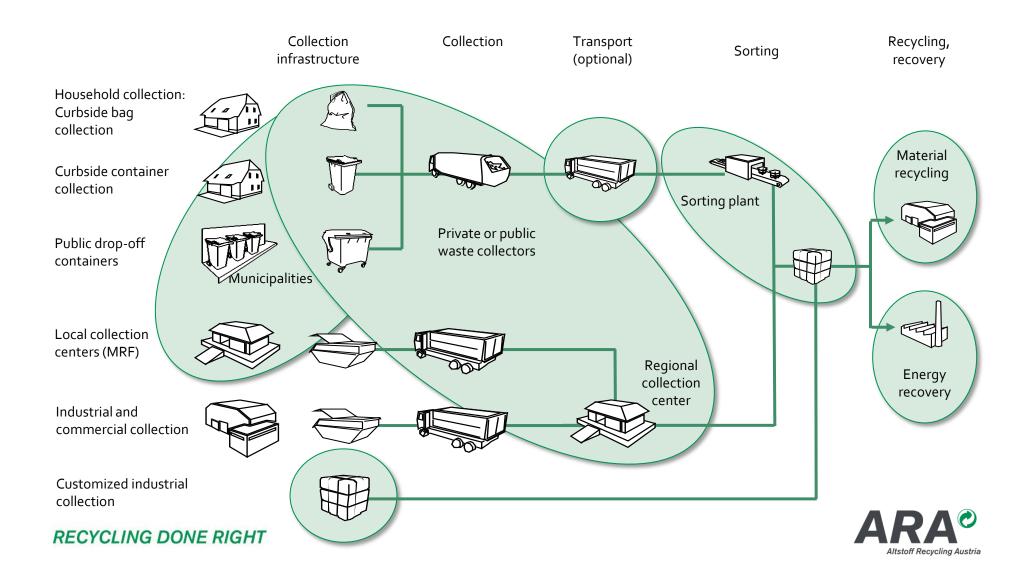
#### TARGETS FOR ARA SYSTEM

	Househo	old system	Commercial system			
	Recovery	Recycling	Recovery	Recycling		
Paper, board, cardboard	80%	75%	90%	85%		
Glass	80%	80%	80%	80%		
Plastics	95%	30%	85%	65%		
Composites	95%	15%	50%	15%		
Metals	65%	65%	65%	65%		
Wood	-	15%	-	15%		
Textiles	-	-	-	-		
Ceramics	-	-	-	-		
Packaging made of biodegradable materials	95%	-	95%	-		
Total	60%	55%	60%	55%		

The ratios according to Packaging Ordinance Art. 11(1) and (2) refer to compliance quantities.



#### ARA'S RECYCLING VALUE CHAIN



### TYPES OF LIGHTWEIGHT PACKAGING COLLECTION













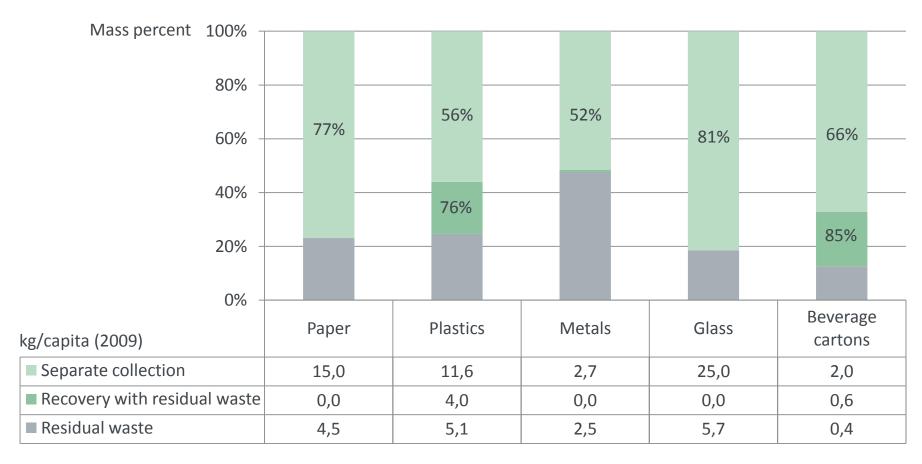
#### COLLECTION AND RECOVERY IN 2010

Packaging material	Collection containers		Collection (est.) [tons]	Recovery <sup>1)</sup> (est.)  [tons]	
Paper, cardboard	1,04	14,000	344,000	344,000	
Glass		30,000	216,500	210,000	
Plastics and lightweight packaging (container collection)	23	30,000	212 500	177,000	
Households serviced by curbside (bag) collection	ARE DEEP GARCY	33,000	212,500		
Metals		50,000	40,000	32,300	
Wood			18,500	18,500	
Total	2,83	37,000	830,500	781,800	

1) Net figures.



## SEPARATE COLLECTION AND RECOVERY OF PACKAGINGS REDUCE RESIDUAL WASTE





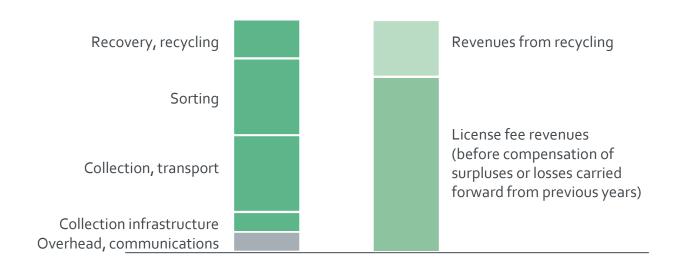
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**FINANCING** 



#### FULL-COST APPROACH WITHOUT CROSS-SUBSIDIES

- Calculation for each packaging material
- Separate calculation for consumer packaging and industrial/commercial packaging
- Revenues from recovery and recycling reduce fees





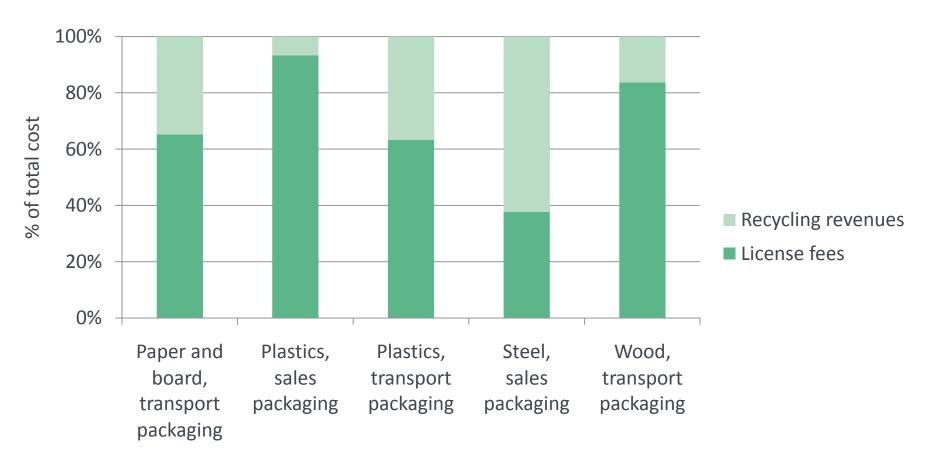
# ARA'S LICENSE TARIFFS 2010 / 2011

Packaging materials	2010	2011	Change
	in EUR/ton	in EUR/ton	2010/2011
Paper, cardboard, corrugated board			
Sales packaging <sup>1)</sup>	130	120	-8%
Transport packaging	50	45	-10%
Glass			
Disposal	71	71	0%
Reusable			
Wood	14	14	0%
Ceramics	170	170	0%
Ferrous metals			
small (< 3 l)	270	270	0%
large (≥ 3 l) and metal hoops	130	130	0%
Aluminium	500	450	-10%
Textiles	265	265	0%
Plastics			
small <sup>1)</sup>	760	670	-12%
EPS (e.g. Styrofoam®) > 0.1 kg / sales unit	200	200	0%
Composite materials (excl. beverage cartons)	670	630	-6%
Industrial, commercial & large plastic packaging (ICP) <sup>2)</sup>			
Foils $\geq$ 1.5 m <sup>22)</sup> , tray foils $\geq$ 0.25 m <sup>2</sup> , hoops,	162	120	-26%
adhesive strips, containers $\geq 5$ I, bags $\geq 10$ I <sup>3)</sup> ,			
net bags $\geq$ 25 $l^2$ , cartridges <sup>2</sup> , molded containers $>$ 0.15 kg			
Packaging made of biodegradable materials	580	560	-3%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1)</sup>Incl. shopping bags <sup>2)</sup>Changed/new as of Jan. 1, 2004 <sup>3)</sup>Changed/new as of Jan. 1, 2007

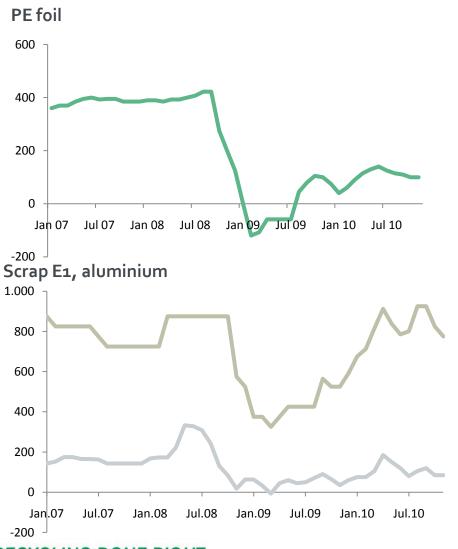


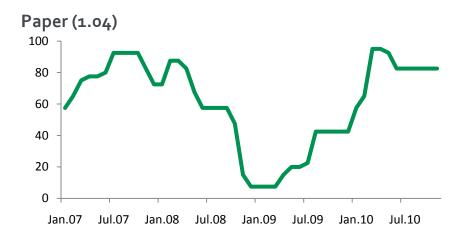
# REVENUES FROM RECYCLING REDUCE LICENSE FEES BUT INCREASE DEPENDENCY FROM MATERIAL MARKETS

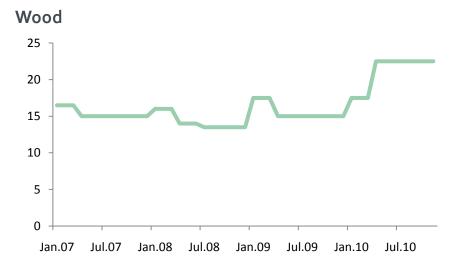




# SECONDARY RAW MATERIALS MARKET 2007–2010 (€/t)



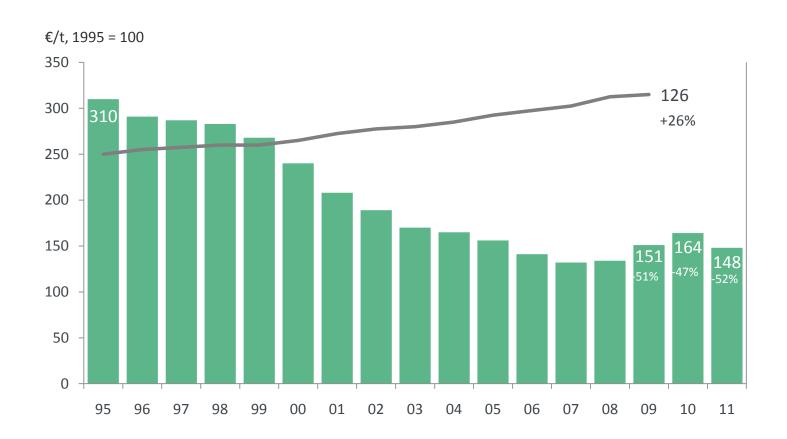






RECYCLING DONE RIGHT

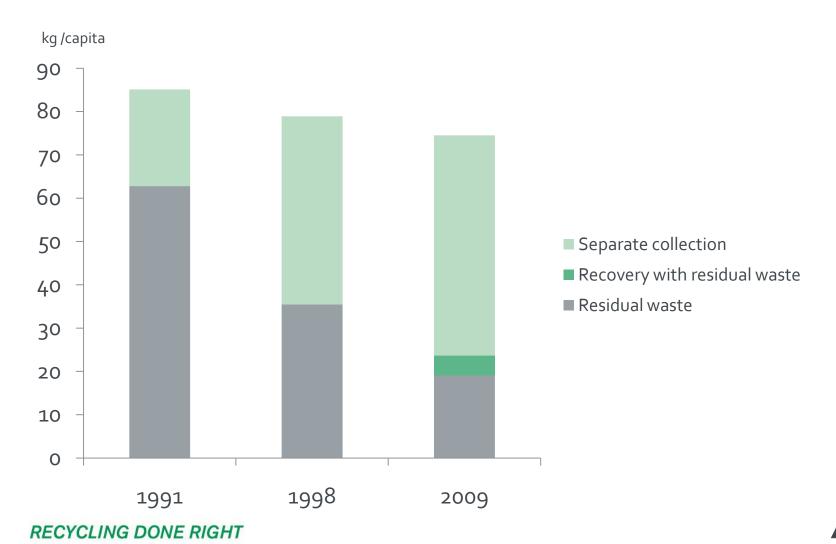
# AVERAGE ARA LICENSE FEE COMPARED TO THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX



Sources: ARA, 2010, and Statistics Austria.



# PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY IN PRACTICE: 68% OF PACKAGING SOURCE-SEPARATED, 74% FINANCED

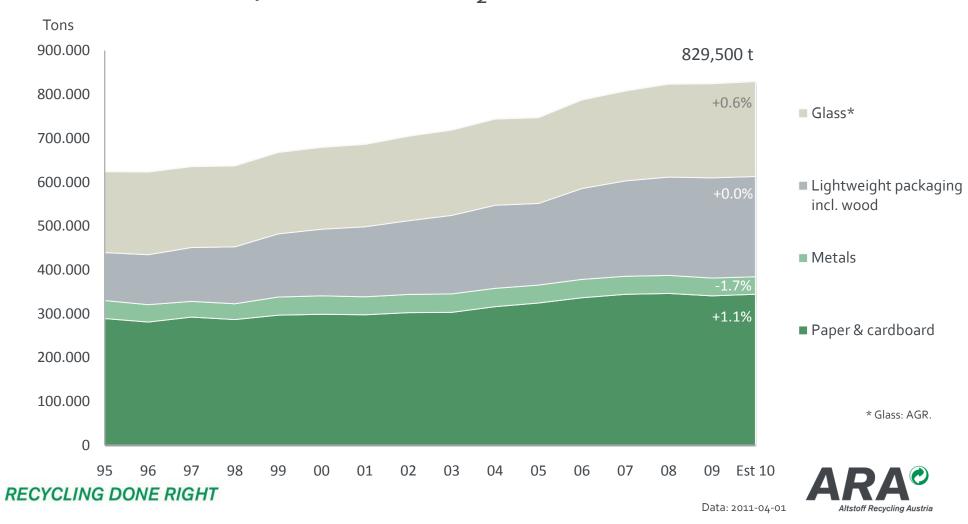


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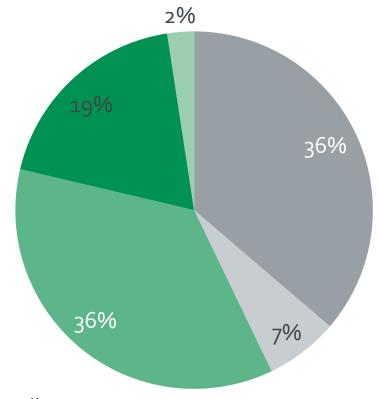
EFFECTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS – A REVIEW



# ARA PACKAGING WASTE COLLECTION 1995–2010: 33% GROWTH PROVIDES SECONDARY RAW MATERIALS AND SAVES 600,000 TONS CO, EQUIVALENTS PER YEAR



#### COMPOSITION OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE



Total: 3.7 million tons

Fractions collected separately: 260 kg/capita = 57%

■ Residual waste 165 kg/capita

☐ Bulky waste 30 kg/capita

Separately collectedsecondary raw materials 163 kg/capita

■ Separately collected biowaste

86 kg/capita

■ Separately collected hazardous waste and electronic waste

11 kg/capita

Total:

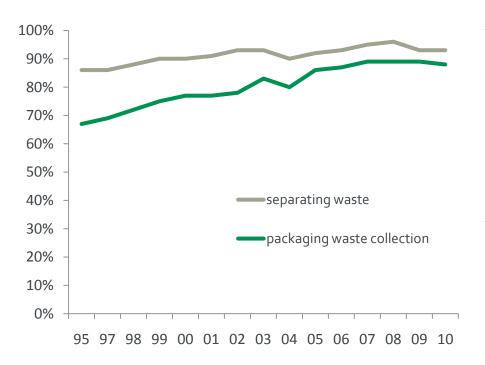
455 kg/capita

Ministry of Environment, 2009.



#### CONSUMERS IN FAVOR OF SEPARATE COLLECTION

# Consumers (aged 14+) who think that ... is a good or very good idea

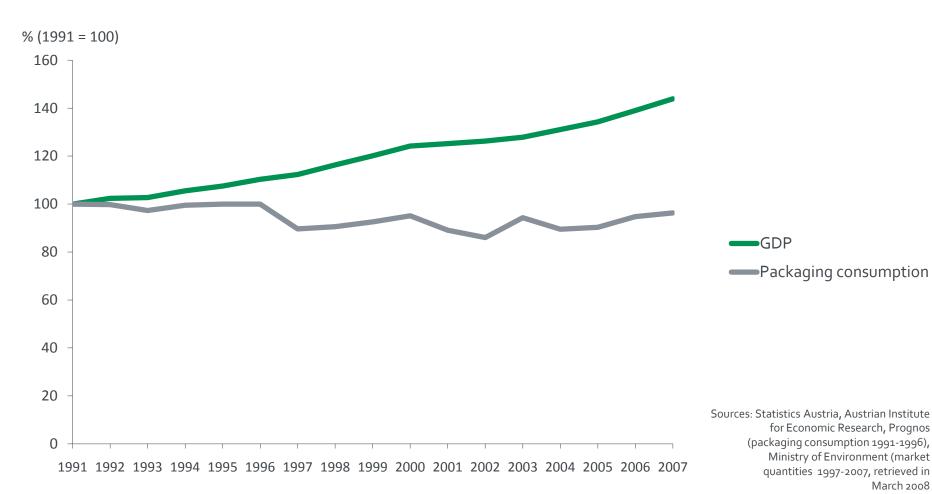


	Paper	Lightweight packaging	Metal packaging
Satisfied or highly satisfied	92%	81%	87%
Do not request any changes	80%	73%	85%
Cumulative grade (1= best, 5= worst)	1.4	1.6	1.5

Source: IMAS, 2010.



#### GDP AND PACKAGING CONSUMPTION





March 2008

#### AUSTRIA'S SOLUTION IN A NUTSHELL

- Division of labor: Cooperation with municipalities and waste management companies
- Coordination of collection schemes with other waste management sectors
- Main driver of efficiency and cost reduction: parties affected by the Packaging Ordinance (i.e. businesses and industry) in full control of system implementation and operation
- Positive effects of competition and innovation
- Transparency
  - No cross-subsidies
  - Quantities and target ratios made public
  - Audits of licensees, waste collectors and recyclers
- Benchmarking
  - Ecologic effectiveness
  - Economic efficiency
  - Public acceptance



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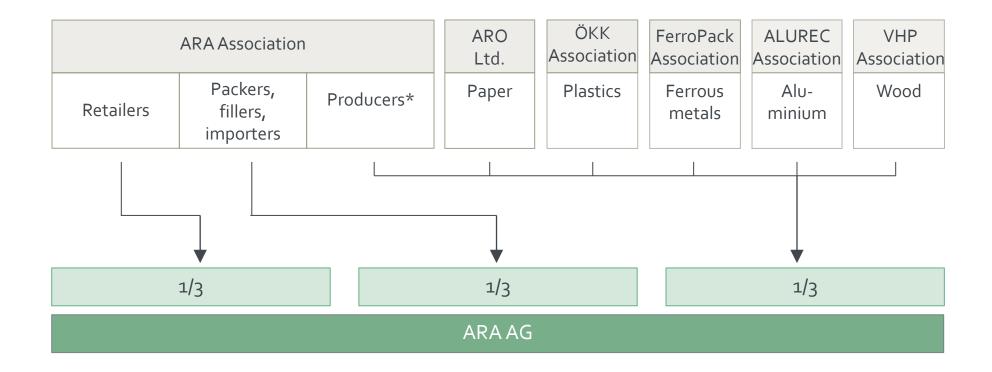
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### BACK UP CHARTS

#### ARA'S SHAREHOLDER STRUCTURE

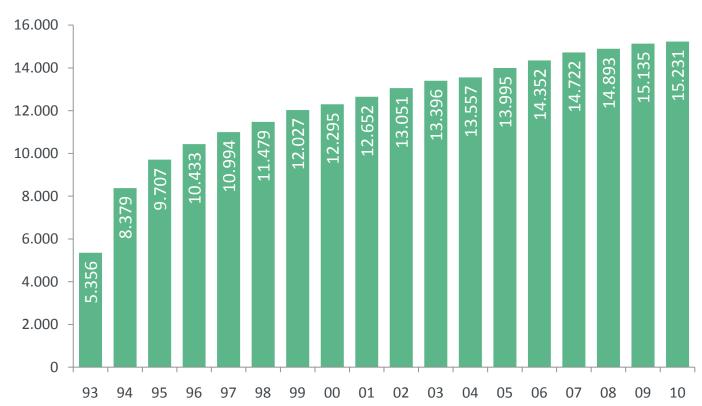




<sup>\*</sup>Glass, ceramics, textiles, composites and packaging made of biodegradable materials.

## BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRY: FREE-RIDER SHARE BELOW 10%

#### Number of licensees





#### ARA SYSTEM – RESOURCES AND PARTNERS



As of 1 January 2010.



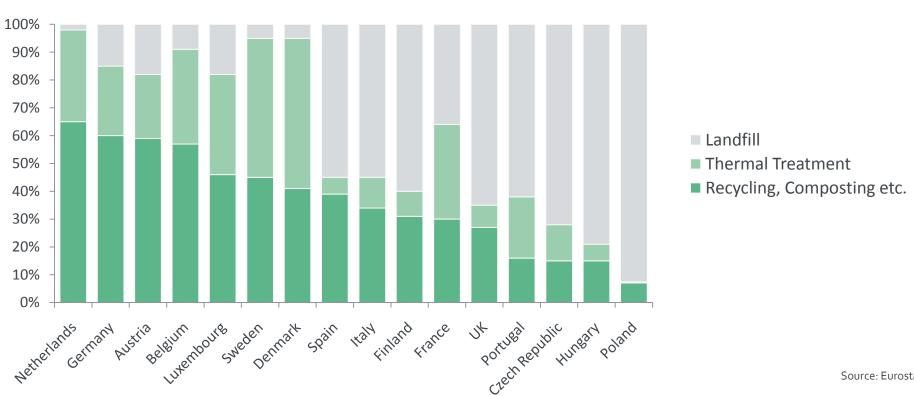
### LEGAL TARGETS AND ACTUAL QUOTAS REACHED IN 2009

	Household system			Commercial system				
	Recovery		Recycling		Recovery		Recycling	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Paper, board, cardboard	80%	83%	75%	83%	90%	103%	85%	103%
Glass	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%
Plastics	95%	95%	30%	33%	85%	95%	65%	66%
Composites	95%	95%	15%	15%	50%	50%	15%	15%
Metals	65%	65%	65%	65%	65%	65%	65%	65%
Wood	-	40%	15%	22%	-	44%	15%	24%
Textiles	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
CeramicS	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
Packaging made of biodegradable materials	95%	9%	-	0%	95%	95%	-	0%
Total (excl. glass )	60%	86%	55%	60%	60%	91%	55%	83%

Ratios according to Packaging Ordinance Art.  ${\tt 11(1)}$  and  ${\tt (2)}$  refer to compliance quantities.



### MSW TREATMENT IN EU W<sub>2</sub>E GOES HAND-IN-HAND WITH RECYCLING



Source: Eurostat

